

UNIFIED ARIZONA VETERANS (UAV), P.O. BOX 34338, PHOENIX, AZ 85067

MINUTES OF THE UAV GENERAL MEETING HELD ON APRIL 5, 2014, AT THE STATE VETERAN HOME, 4141 N. SILVESTRE HERRERA WAY, PHOENIX, AZ 85012

CALL TO ORDER: 10:10 a.m. by UAV Chairman Rob Welch, followed by Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance by Chaplain Jon Altmann.

Presentation: "US VETS Caring for Homeless Veterans" - John Scott, US VETS INITIATIVE, USMC veteran, and Executive Director for U.S.VETS – Phoenix. John recounted a brief history of US Vets Initiative, highlighting the Genesis Committee, Victory Place, the VIP/Veterans in Progress program, the TIP (Transition in Place) program at 1110 N. 16th St at I-10, Phoenix; SSVF (Supportive Services for Veteran Families) which is VA-funded and CASS (Central Arizona Shelter Services) is a partner, and the Grand Vets Village at Indian School and Grant Avenue consisting of 4 acres and 131 units. All are client-centered case and 99% occupancy rate. Contact John at 3400 Grand Avenue #111, Phoenix, AZ 85017, C: (602) 501-5548, www.usvetsinc.org/phoenix/ "Serving Those Who Served."

Presentation: "Healing of Memories for Veterans" - Mike Wold, Healing of Memories for Veterans Workshop Coordinator, and Navy veteran. The next Healing of Memories gathering will be in May and October at Carefree, AZ for veterans only, 24 in the class. Contact Mike at: michael_w_wold@msn.com, 651-687-9767 (cell).

Justin Smothers, VISTA Veterans Outreach Coordinator in Mesa, AZ, introduced himself, he is working on several veterans' projects in Mesa. Contact Justin at: Office of Diversity & Neighborhood Outreach, City of Mesa – Diversity Office, Phone – 480.644.6536 , justin.smothers@mesaaz.gov, Office hours: Monday-Thursday 7:30 am-6:00 pm

ROLL CALL: Roll call taken, quorum certified.

MARCH 1, 2014 MINUTES. Motion to approve the Minutes by Secretary Carol Culbertson, seconded by Treasurer Bob Hysko. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Bob Hysko presented and distributed a Statement of Funds report: As of 4/5/14, the Cash Balances are:

General Fund - \$11,926.84

Savings Account - \$14,017.69

Hall of Fame Account - \$3,359.74

Total: \$29,340.27

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report subject to audit made by Secretary Culbertson and seconded by Director Crego. Motion carried.

Sickness & Distress: No reports from the membership.

REPORTS:

1. VA Medical Center Phoenix – Scott McRoberts, Public Affairs, reported that the 2013 Report is now available, showing 800,000 outpatient visits, for example. The Phoenix VA Health Care System's goal remains: reduce the 250-day wait to less than 3 weeks. The claims backlog is the highest volume in the nation. 200 additional employees have been hired. The Southeast Clinic in Gilbert (Val Vista and the 202) will have a ribbon cutting on Thursday, April 24th. November: Third Floor expansion and more parking garage construction.

Ron Capek asked about the high suicide rate of veterans. Scott replied there is a suicide prevention program, the crisis hotline is 1-800-273-8255.

2. UAV Board of Directors – UAV Chairman Rob Welch reported that the Arizona Veteran/Bucky O'Neill Award information is temporarily off the azuav.org web site. Please mark your May calendar: May 17 is the Arizona Medal of Honor exhibit at the Arizona Historical Society Museum in Tempe, 1300 N College Ave, Papago Park, Tempe, 480-929-9499, www.arizonahistoricalsociety.org/museums, Open: Tuesday to Saturday from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Sunday from Noon to 4:00 PM. Closed on Mondays and State holidays.

3. UAV Legislative Committee – Corey Harris, Chair

Corey reported that all 6 invited gubernatorial candidates have accepted our invitation to participate in the Veterans Town Hall Meeting. Please mark your June calendar: Saturday, June 7th - Veterans Town Hall Meeting with Gubernatorial candidates Ken Bennett, Doug Ducey, Fred DuVal, Christine Jones, Al Melvin, and Scott Smith. 10 am to Noon (doors open at 9:30 am), Pulliam Auditorium, Ground floor, Burton Barr Central Library, 1221 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix 85004. The moderator will be Brahm Resnik, Phoenix 12 News anchor and reporter who hosts "Sunday Square Off," the 12 News political roundtable show every Sunday at 8 am. Channel 12 will be filming the Veterans Town Hall meeting. There are 250 seats in Pulliam Auditorium.

Due to the Veterans Town Hall Meeting, there will be no regular meeting of the UAV. The next regularly scheduled UAV meeting will be Saturday, September 6, 2014.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Name Change to United Arizona Veterans – Several members expressed opposition to the proposed Name Change. Mel Brody stated that the name change had been brought up before and that several VSOs such as the American Legion had pushed back at that time due to the information contained in their national charters. While the UAV Chair looks into the objections raised, Motion to table this topic made by Art Sloane, seconded by Linda Fulkerson. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS AND OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. \$500 Rental Expense at the Burton Barr Central Library – A motion was made by Treasurer Hysko, seconded by Director Yates, to take up a voluntary collection from member organizations. Motion carried. Approximately \$230 was given to Treasurer Hysko at the meeting for deposit into the UAV checking account. Thank you to all who willingly contributed.

2. April 30th is the postmark due date for Nominations to the Class of 2014, Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame. Nominations are to be mailed to: Unified Arizona Veterans, P.O. Box 34338,

Phoenix, AZ 85067.

GOOD OF THE ORDER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1. Gold Star Wives 69th Anniversary on April 5th (Pat Kelly). Happy Birthday, Gold Star Wives!**
- 2. Wed, April 9th – Arizona Gives Day (Art Sloane).**
- 3. Every Friday – Veterans Court (for location and times, please contact Ron Capek at: ronluccap@gmail.com, 623.979.9389).**
- 4. Sun, April 13th – Cactus Shadows High School's Veterans Heritage Project Reception & Book Signing for Book #10. ASU West Campus, 3 pm to 6 pm. Free to the public. (Dave Lucier)**
- 5. Tues, April 22nd – Naval Order Arizona Commandery's free military history program, "The Doolittle Raid, the Doolittle Raiders, and the Goblet Ceremony," Guest Speaker: Ole Griffith, COL, USAF, Retired, friend of the late General Jimmy Doolittle, and veteran of many Doolittle Raiders reunions. Macayo's Restaurant, 4001 N. Central Ave, Phoenix, 11:15 am - doors open, Noon – optional lunch, 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm: Guest speaker program.**
- 6. Sun, April 27th – Vietnam Remembrance Day, 8:30 am to 1 pm, Wesley Bolin Plaza**
- 7. Sat, May 17th – Military Women's Luncheon, VA Medical Center's Ambulatory Care Clinic Bldg Basement Conference Center, cost: \$20 (for more information, please contact Linda Fulkerson, fulkers6@hotmail.com, 480.833.9680).**
- 8. Monday, May 26th, 8 am – Memorial Day Commemoration Services, National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona, 23029 North Cave Creek Rd, north Phoenix 85024. Wreath & Color Guard participants welcome; due date for registering: May 1 with Registrar Sue Wudy at: lilsarge@mindspring.com, 602.277.4168. Donations toward the event's expenses are welcome; contact Mel Brody at: melvinmaxine@aol.com, 480.473.9076.**
- 9. Sat, July 19th – WMBA All Star Game in Phoenix (Dave Lucier)**
- 10. Marion Cartland welcomes articles for the Arizona Veterans Connection magazine, Marion.cartland@cox.net (Bob Dalpe)**
- 11. Arizona Veterans magazine's #3 is being distributed – see Mark Field, journalist and editor, for your free copy (Mark Field, sunmags@aol.com)**
- 12. Postmark due date for Nominations to the Class of 2014, Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame (Director Reggie Yates, ry173abn@cox.net)**

50/50 Raffle Winner: Linda Fulkerson, \$35; \$36 to the UAV Treasury.
With thanks to Kathy Laurier for bringing the doughnuts!

Next Meeting: Saturday, May 3rd, 2014, State Veteran Home Phoenix, Liberty Hall on the second floor, 10 am to Noon.

Closing prayer given by Chaplain Altmann.

Meeting adjourned at Noon.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/CAROL CULBERTSON
Secretary, Unified Arizona Veterans
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